

#45 West College Street,

Oberlin, Ohio. -

Feb. 14. 1823. -

My dear friend, -

'Tis the day for Valentines! -
How different from the days of
our youth when each mail
was anxiously awaited for
more and still others to cheer
us; and cause us to believe
that many hearts overflowed
with joy in sending floral
messages from one to another.

We too, have assumed a
characteristic of youth in
having a "Valentine Box" to
be opened after supper. -
There were contained

a number of choice extracts of local poetry and not a few allusions to Cupid and his associates. These were all read aloud by a committee, and then the person to whom the gift was directed was made aware of the fact, which caused considerable merriment. I received my share I am sure for Fortune or Fate brought me five.

I enclose the most characteristic ones, for your inspection only. The scene is taken from one of our Geological Excursions last Fall. Oh! - I beg your pardon for

mentioning that long word so irritating to your ears. -

To change the subject, I was greatly pleased to learn of your success in composing so sympathetic a piece of music. Should enjoy hearing it right now.

I thank you for calling upon Percy Palmer, the little fellow has a large portion of my admiration for small boys who are willing to learn. He certainly enjoyed your visit. -

Please express to our German friends my sympathy as to the loss of the little one. - However I frankly confess to you that I believe the little child

to be far happier in heaven
 than in a home with a
 drunken and unkind father.
 The early spring is near at
 hand as you predicted. On
 Sunday afternoon I might have
 been seen on a "Private Car," -
 i.e. a hand car, - with five compan-
 -ions on our way to the Stone
 Quarry. - The sun shone as
 bright and the sky was as
 clear as a day in June. -
 There filled each of our
 hearts to the brim, - a sense of
 sympathy and divine aid. - as
 we put on brakes just after the
 car rolled down a hill and
 across a bridge spanning the river.

Black River when we stopped
on a "Cattle Guard" and all
knelt and offered a few words
of prayer for strenght and proper
words to speak at the Sunday School.

As we once more mounted the
car and bore down on the
handles, in readiness for the
sharp curve just before us, there
seemed added strength. To
make a long story short we
were received with eager ex-
pectations, in that little, only,
old, white, wooden, school house
in the district. There were
an even thirty present
and twelve cents collection.
The good old Gospel Hymns

caused the air to ring out all possible strains of harmony. - I have enjoyed the course of Artists Recitals in the Conservatory this term very much. - We have listened to Cyril Tyler - Mrs. Lawson - Several noted violin artists and last night Miss Marguerite Hall. but she does not deserve the name of Hall. - Her voice is a Mezzo Soprano and in its self quite good but in my mind not truly artistic. She damaged the true effect of sympathy and feeling by very poor facial expressions and very mechanical movements of the body. How bows were painful to me. - I did not stay for

but half of the numbers.

Once more concerning "Halifax".
The volume is nearly completed;
some one hundred pages remain-
ing unread. I have reached
the point where "John" pushes
through the crowd with the sack
of "Gold Coins" to the relief of
Mr. Jessop's bank. He showed in
this one act alone a truly
beneficent and ever loving heart.
Shall finish by time I hear again
from you and will thank you
for all suggestions equal in
value to this one. The reading
has been to me a pleasure;
and in every sense profitable;
occupying leisure moments

is an interesting recreation.

We are looking forward to "Washington's Birthday" as a social event here of rare occurrence. Will repeat on it another time.

Your true friend, -
Clarence E. Hensignay.

P.S. Have started a reform in regard to "Clarence" here in the house with my landlady, guess it will spread. - Thank you for suggestion. -

Clarence



Miss Grace E. Hall,
Oak Park,

Ill.-

4/17/98. O.P. Ans.

